

HELLO AGAIN

VOL. 26 NO. 2

MAR - APR 1995

A PERSONAL NOTE: The hobby lost a good friend in **Mike O'Donnell**, a very active member of the Metro Washington OTR Club. He was former editor of Radio Recall. He was 56 when he died on January 30th. Condolences may be sent to his widow, Reta, at 9904 Greenview Lane, Manassas, VA 22110. Mike was a frequent attendee at our convention...Dave Amaral tells me that **Al Block** died on Feb 13. I never knew Al but Dave says he was one of the pioneers in OTR collecting, starting in 1945. He would collect and copy (disc to disc) and trade with a handful of collectors before any of us had our first reel machine. Did any of my readers trade with Al?

ULTIMATE HISTORY: The Second Supplement is now available for \$5 plus \$1.50 postage and handling. Supplement 1 and 2 are \$13 plus \$1.50 postage and handling. The entire book with the two supplements is \$52 plus \$4 for P & H.

CONVENTION 1994: For sale are 1993 FOTR pens, \$1.00 each; 1994 FOTR magnets, \$1.00 each; 1994 Convention Books, \$2.00 each. Please add 50 cents P & H for the pens and magnets and 75 cents P & H for the booklet.

CONVENTION 1995: The dates for the convention are October 19 - 21, 1995 at the Holiday Inn-North in Newark, NJ. This will be our 20th annual convention.

If anyone would like to write on original OTR article for our convention booklet, please send it to me. I will choose one or two articles for inclusion. This will be a bigger convention booklet than usual. The articles must be camera ready.

Friends of Old-Time Radio Script Contest

The **second** annual original script writing contest is now open. We would like an original 30 minute script which must be based on any of the great radio programs of the past, such as The Shadow, Jack Benny, etc.

The script can have the characters originating in their original era and time or you can update the time to today. The script must have all music and sound cues as well as all the spoken material. Try to arrange it in script form so it doesn't have to be retyped.

The prize for the best script will be \$150 and will have its live performance at our 1996 convention on Thursday evening after dinner. We would like you to attend our convention to participate but it is not mandatory. You can direct it if you wish. There will be some rehearsal time. Scripts must be submitted by September 3, 1995. Send to Dave Zwengler, 319 Plymouth Rd., North Brunswick, NJ 08902. A distinguished panel of old-time radio buffs will pick the winning script. They must be very readable. All are eligible so please spread the word.

The winning script in our first contest was won by Michael Giorgio. It was based on The Whistler and it will be performed at our 20th annual convention on Thursday, October 19, 1995.

Will all clubs with newsletters print the above in order to give everyone a chance?

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED: **Nostalgia Digest**, Feb - Mar; articles about Jack Benny on Tour; Cartoons about Jack Benny; dance bands from Chicago...Apr - May; This is Chuck Schaden's 25th Anniversary issue. He has been broadcasting old-time radio since May 2, 1970, about the same time I started Hello Again. Congratulations Chuck! Also articles about the death of FDR; Basil Rathbone as a villain; Gloria Grahame...**Tune In**, Feb; Fibber McGee and Molly go to war; An original Broadway is My Beat which did not win the FOTR script award...**OTR Newsletter**, Winter; this is a newsletter of the Old-Time Music Group. OTR stands for Old-time Music on the Radio, Box 3014, Elkins, WV 26241. They had their first Conference in Mt. Airy, NC May 31 - Jun 2. The group is concerned with Old-time music on the radio, mainly preserving the radio broadcast of music which

draws primarily from the instrumental and vocal traditions of the southern Appalachians. For information write John Lilly at the Elkins address...**Radio Recall**, Feb; second part of an article about Bobby Benson by Jack French.. **SPERDVAC Radiogram**, Feb; Article by Conrad Binyon about the day James Cagney stole his line...Mar; more from Conrad Binyon...**NARA News**, Spring, articles about country music programs; discussion of equipment available to the OTR collector from 1970 to today...**Illustrated Press** (Illustrated Press is the newsletter of the **Old Time Radio Club**, now celebrating its 20th anniversary), Feb; articles on I Love a Mystery; Gangbusters and Cowboys on Radio...Mar; articles on Cowboys on Radio, Part 4...**The Times of Kate Smith**, Winter; a lot of material about Kate Smith...**The Jot 'Em Down Journal**, Feb; this if the official journal of the National Lum and Abner Society. For information about them and their next convention on June 25, 1995 in Mena, Arkansas, write Tim Hollis at 81 Sharon Blvd., Dora, AL 35062...**Daily Sentinel**, Mar – Apr; articles on Milton Berle; radio actors in the movies, part 2...**Thrilling Days of Yesteryear**, Mar – Apr; articles on Cecil B. DeMille; Willard Waterman; Bill Stern; Art Linkletter. . **Old Time Radio Digest**, Jan – Feb; articles about information and help to the OTR collector, Part 3 by Terry Salomonson; Nero Wolfe...**Old-time Radio Gazette**, Mar – Apr; article about Rod Serling...**Old-time Radio-Digest** (not to be confused with Bob Burchett's publication just mentioned. This is the Internet publication. For information write William Pfeiffer, Box 8746, Springfield, MO 65801 or email wdp@airwaves.com.

BOOKS: Greenwood Publishing Group has published many bio-bibliographies in the performing arts. James Robert Parish is the series editor. About 60 have been published. For a list or to order call 1-800-225-5800...One of its latest is **David Niven** by Karin Fowler. It is 320 pages and costs \$59.95...**J. Scott Smart a.k.a The Fat Man** by Charles Laughlin, 65 pages, \$7.50 from Three Faces East Press, Box 257, York, ME 03909. This book covers Smart's entire life and is filled with information well documented (see flyer)...**Tram, The Frank Trumbauer Story** by Philip Evans and Larry Kiner; Scarecrow Press (1-800-537-7107); 859 pp.; \$79.50. This book contains all the information available about Frank Trumbauer, musician and aviator. . **Sheldon Leonard** has just written his autobiography called "And The Show Goes On." It can be purchased from Limelight Editions, 118 E 30th St., New York, NY 10016 (212) 532-5525. Cost for the 256 page book is \$25. He covers his entire career in a very entertaining manner, including his 63-year marriage to Frankie...**Fred Foy** has issued a CD and cassette called "Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch." Fred reminisces about his days in radio. To get a copy send \$8.98 for cassette and/or \$14.98 for CD plus postage of \$1.50 to Fred Foy, Box 239, Reading, MA 01867...If you want to order the latest book about **Kate Smith**, contact **Richard Hayes**, 59 Myrtle Ave., Cranston, RI 02910. The book will be available in May from McFarland. If you can have your money reach Dick before April 5, the cost will be only \$39.50 rather than \$48.50. I know there is very little time, if any, since most of you will be receiving Hello Again about then, but maybe a few will be able to. This a definitive book about Kate Smith by Dick Hayes, who probably knows more about her then just about anyone...**Tom DeLong**, Box 335, Southport, CT 06490 is writing a reference book of 800+ bios of radio performers who were pre-1960, network. If you have material about dates and places of birth and deaths of many personalities, Tom could use your help,

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS: The **Elmira Little Theater** presented their 7th annual tribute to radio on February 3rd and 4th at the Clemens Performing Arts Center in Elmira, New York. Garry Yoggy directed the presentations which included The Charlie McCarthy Show; Sherlock Holmes; Baby Snooks and Nick Carter. Special guests included Barney Beck and Michelle & Lon Clark. Providing the music was Ed Clute and guest director of Sherlock Holmes was Bill Nadel...**The Collector's Radio Network** will be starting distributing its programming to broadcast stations starting May 27, 1995. It will consist of 90 minutes of discussion and special segments on all kinds of collectables including OTR. Hosts include Art Cervi, Tom Eurich, Jr. and Bob Burnham. Network programming will be available to over 6000 stations on Satcom C5 at 1 pm. For further information contact Tom at (313) 730-8079 or Bob at (313) 277-3798.

LOGS: Page 22 of my Collector's List is available (#212 – 221). Send me a SASE for it... After cleaning out my stuff, I found some old logs and some newer ones hidden away. They follow:

		X – 1 (Titles only)	\$1.00
Studio One	\$1.00	Screen Director's Playhouse	\$1.00
Shell Chateau	\$1.00	Music America Loves Best (Partial)	\$1.00
Hall of Fantasy	\$1.00	Shadow of Fu Manchu (Partial)	\$.50
Ford Theater	\$1.00	CBS and You Are There	\$1.00
Charlie Wild, Private Det.	\$1.00	Academy Award Theater	\$1.00

If you order just one or 2, please enclose a SASE also.

CATALOGS AND NEW SHOWS: From **Vintage Broadcasts** (Andy Blatt), 42 Bowling Green, Staten Island, NY 10814; 1-800-418-1445. This January supplement contains Philo Vance, Whitehall 1212; Texaco Star Theater; Sherlock Holmes; Moon Over Africa; My Favorite Husband; Lum and Abner...**Vintage Radio Broadcasts**, 14561 W Archer Ave., Golden, CO 80401. It is run by Aaron Weiss. It contains a variety of shows including Suspense, Black Museum, Green Hornet, Lights Out...Received bulletin from **Don Schilz (Audio/Video Collectibles)**, Box 435, Prospect Heights, IL 60070. Don sells OTR shows, Classic TV, unusual films...**Don Brush**, 11232 Rampart Lane, Port Richey, FL 34668 (813) 868-3458, after over 20 years, has a catalog for tapes to trade (reel or cassette). Don lost many of his tapes in the flood last year but he has many shows, a wide variety...The owner of **Radio Vault** is Roger Massel. The address sent to me by John Barber is Box 9032, Wyoming, MI 49509. Another address I have is Box 375, Sparta, MI 49345 Is this an old address or a different company?...**BRC Productions** (Bob Burnham), Box 2645, Livonia, MI 48151 has a new supplement (1995 #1) which has more remastered Suspense, Keep 'em Rolling and Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar...**John Barber**, Box 70711, New Orleans, LA 70172. John is a good source for scripts as well as OTR shows...**Adventures in Cassettes**, #70 and #79; address is 5353 Nathan Lane North, Plymouth, MN 55442 (1-800-328-0108); shows include Let's Pretend; Great Gildersleeve; Fred Allen; Burns and Allen; Our Miss Brooks...**Hello Again Radio** (Bob Burchett), Box 6176, Cincinnati, OH 45206; a variety of shows on cassette (#1592 – 1780)

NEW ADDRESSES: **Tom van der Voort** was mentioned under new friends last issue. Correct address is 1134 Westmoreland Rd., Alexandria, VA 22308...**Jack Bales**, 422 Greenbrier Ct., Fredericksburg, VA 22401...**Lora Palmer**, 46 Farnham Ave. #2, Torrington, CT 06790...**Clyde Benge**, 10057 So. Falcon Creek Dr., Littleton, CO 80126

NEW FRIENDS AND RETURNEES: **Tom Parker**, 3730 Arnold Ave., San Diego, CA 92104 is very interested in videos of serials and OTR related shows and Your Hit Parade with Dorothy Collins on video...**John Farrell**, 1353 East 27th St., Brooklyn, NY 11210... **David Hofstede**, Box 70596, Las Vegas, NV 89170 is writing a book on James Dean and wants details of any radio shows he was in...**Robert E. Lee**, Box 2911, Friday Harbor, WA 98250...**Charles Laughlin**, Dept. Of Sociol., B750 Loeb Bldg., Carleton Univ., 1125 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa, Canada K1S 5B6. Charles wrote the book about J. Scott Smart...**Gary Mercer**, 3606 Clayton Rd., Concord, CA 94521. Gary knew Larry Kiner very well and visited him quite a bit. He sold Larry his Complete Radio Guide, TV Mirror collection...**William Anthes, Jr.**, Box 4198, Springfield, MA 01101 has records for sale. He has 160 Radiola Records and about 90 other OTR records. He also has 250 other assorted records. All are 33 1/3. Send a SASE to Bill for a description...**Ed Allcorn**, 400 East Garvin, Eastland, TX 76448...**Greg Foltz**, 437 S. Blackstone Ave., La Grange, IL 60525 (708) 579-9856. Greg is looking for copies of the 1932 - 33 radio show, Seckatary Hawkins...He is also looking for juvenile series books from 1900 – 1970 such as Hardy Boys, Nancy Drew, etc., especially in dust jackets.. **Alan Tyler**, 96 Camp St., Providence, RI 02906. Alan has a series called "Just Plain Folk Tales" which he hopes to distribute through National Radio Reading Service...**Nick Kimber**, 24 Tunstall Rd., Wymering, Portsmouth, Hants, PO6 3RT, England is looking for any OTR shows by John Dickson Carr, both American and BBC...**Rod Phillips**, Box 684, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010...**Aaron Weiss**, 14561 West Archer Ave., Golden, CO 80401...**David Kalakore**, 8465 Sunrise Lakes Blvd., Phase 2, Bldg. 44,

#204, Sunrise, FL 33322...**Noah Arceneaux**, 360 Graham Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11211 is researching radio minstrel shows. He is specifically looking for radio shows that featured white artists performing in black dialect, mainly the song/joke combination found in minstrel shows of the 1800's. He is looking for all shows except Amos 'n' Andy; shows such as The Eveready Hour, Majestic Theater Hour, Showboat, Sinclair Weiner Minstrels, Aunt Jemima, Al Bernard's Merry Minstrel Men, Dutch Master Minstrels, F M & Molly – anything with Marlin Hurt as Beulah, Beulah, Johnson Family, Molasses and January, Sam and Henry...**Robert Trevisanutto**, 43-13706 74th Ave., Surrey, BC, Canada V3W 1K3...**Clair Schulz**, Box 659, Stevens Point, WI 54481...**Charles Sexton**, 3245 Claydon Dr., Beavercreek, OH 45431...**Bill Slankard**, Box 2723, Des Plaines, IL 60017...**Ray Cabana, Jr.**, 13 Jennifer Dr., Granby, MA 01033 is looking for any information on S. S. Van Dine, the creator of Philo Vance. Ray would like any shows starring Jose Ferrer and a copy of Palmer House Promenade where Van Dine had a guest appearance...**Bradley George**, 2177 S 62nd St., West Allis, WI 53219...**Terry Neal**, 499 Knapp Rd., Akron, NY 14001...**Bill Bright**, 1300 Marlborough Ct. #101, Oakville, Ontario, Canada L6H 2S2.

OLD FRIENDS: **Allan Ropchan**, 8923-84 Ave., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6C 1E3 is interested in trading for South African and Australian collections. Allan has over 30,000 shows for trade...**Ron Trembly**, 53 Sword Ave., Enfield, CT 06082 wants any books by or about Paul Rymer, Ernest Chapell and Joseph Kearns...**Mark Paswinski**, 2030-44th St., Highland, IN 46332 would like a log on the 39 episodes of the Great Gildersleeve TV show and videos of any that exist. He has three. It was syndicated in 1955 by Hal Roach/NBC films...**James Belpedio**, Becker College, Box 15071, Worcester, MA 01615 looking for Ben Bernie shows complete with opening and closing theme; a recording of "The Wisdom of Eve," Radio City Playhouse, 1/24/49 and any recordings of a radio adaptation of the film, "The Spoilers."

IN FOND MEMORY: **Willard Waterman**, Feb 1, 80. Willard and Mary Anna were guests at our convention more than once. Willard was one of the most gracious individuals I have known. His career including playing roles on radio, television, film and theater. He performed on many radio shows but is best known for The Great Gildersleeve, a role he took over from Hal Peary in September of 1950...**Sidney Slon**, Jan 22, 84; Sidney wrote extensively for radio including Dick Tracy and The Shadow. He was a frequent guest at our convention...**Joseph Gentile**, Jan 28, 86; Joseph was a well known broadcaster in the Detroit area and was the voice of the Detroit Tigers and Detroit Lions...**Kay St. Germain**, Nov 3, 80; big band singer with much exposure on radio...**Frank Martin**, Dec 22, 80; announcer for radio shows and commercials (Roma Wine, Lights Out, Mayor of the Town, Dangerous Assignment)...**John Zollar**, Dec 22, 86; director of The Cavalcade of America...**Court Benson**, Feb 5, 80. Fine actor in all fields. With his wife, Grace Matthews, attended many of our earlier conventions. Court was in Backstage Wife, Big Story, Our Gal Sunday and many others...**Cecil Roy**, Jan 26, 94; supplied voices for many radio and animated film characters. She was known as "The Girl With a Thousand Voices." Voice of Casper, Little Lulu. On radio (The Goldbergs, Aldrich Family, Timid Soul)... **Nancy Kelly**, Jan 2, 73; stage, screen and radio actress (Let's Pretend, Front Page Farrell, Aunt Jenny)... **Thomas Hayward**, Feb 2, 77; leading tenor at the Metropolitan Opera. On radio in Serenade To America...**Bill Boyd**, Feb 9, 64; executive director of the Academy of Country Music; he began career as a disc jockey spinning country records on AFRS and conducted more than 1000 interviews...**Frank Barton**, Jan 11, 85; radio announcer (Screen Director's Playhouse, One Man's Family)...**Herb Meadow**, Mar 1, 83; scriptwriter who created the radio and television series, Have Gun, Will Travel.

Write if you get work; and hang by your thumbs

JAY HICKERSON, Box 4321, Hamden, CT 06514
(203) 248-2887; FAX (203) 281-1322

J. Scott Smart, a.k.a. The Fat Man

A New Biography by Charles Laughlin, Ph.D.

Imagine if you will a Friday evening way back in 1948. You are a young kid sitting on the floor in front of the family radio, waiting for your favorite serial to begin. Just on 8 o'clock the voice of Charles Irving is heard announcing that the Norwich Pharmaceutical Company, makers of Pepto Bismol and other fine products, is proud to sponsor Dashiell Hammett's most exciting character, The Fat Man, live from New York. And who can forget the opening format of that program? Someone steps up to the microphone and says:

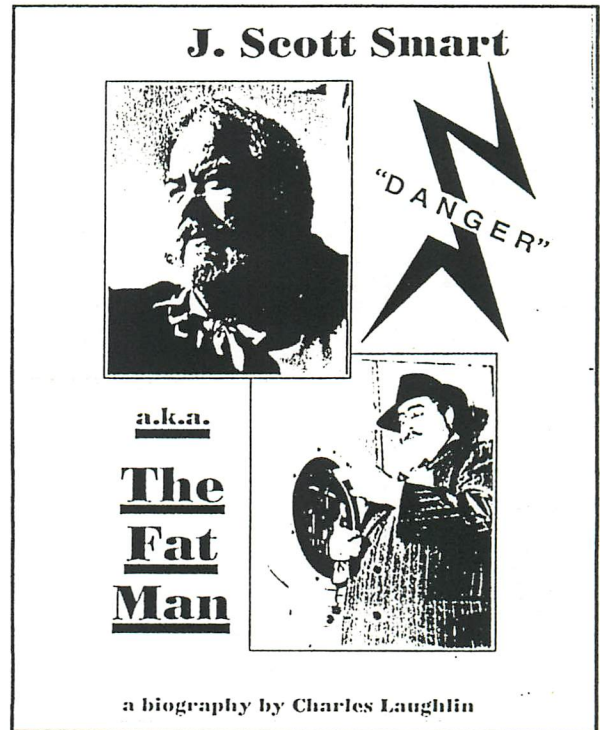
There he goes, into that
drugstore. He's stepping on the
scales. Weight? 237 pounds.
Fortune? Danger.
Whooooooo is it?

And then J. Scott Smart's deep, sonorous tones are heard replying: THE FAT
MAAN!

Here is the official biography of the man who made The Fat Man come alive in living rooms all across the nation. With two decades of work on such shows as The Shadow, Charlie Chan, Blondie, The March of Time, and as a regular on the Fred Allen Show, Jack Smart became known as the "Lon Chaney of radio." Read about Jack Smart's life in this 68 page book full of exhaustively researched OTR history and 35 illustrations. This is the definitive story of one of the greatest actors of the golden age of radio.

The author, Charles Laughlin, Ph.D., is a distinguished anthropologist who has lived with East African pastoralists, Tibetan lamas and Navajo Indians. He teaches at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. A lover of OTR, and a fan of Jack Smart's work all his life, Dr. Laughlin applied his skill as a researcher for over five years in order to amass the material for this book.

You may buy this new book at the low, LOW price of \$7.50. Make check or money order payable to "Three Faces East Press" and mail it to the Press at P.O. Box 257, York, ME 03909. (Maine residents make checks payable to "Barn Gallery Assoc., Inc," same address, tax included.)



Massasoit Community College
Radio Collectors of America and Bob Bowers
present

RADIO CLASSICS THE SIXTH EDITION



Old-Time Radio Stars Scheduled to Appear:
PARLEY BAER . FRED FOY . BOB HASTINGS . PEG LYNCH

Boston Radio Stars Scheduled to Appear:
WRKO's JERRY WILLIAMS . WBZ's NORM NATHAN . WATD's TAYLOR MORGAN
TWO GREAT EVENINGS: APRIL 7 AND 8, 1995

Friday, April 7, 1995 7:30 - 10:00 pm
Massasoit Community College Buckley Arts Center

THREE GREAT OLD TIME RADIO RE-CREATIONS!

SAM SPADE: DETECTIVE

featuring WRKO's Jerry Williams, WBZ's Norm Nathan
and WATD's Taylor Morgan

ETHEL AND ALBERT

starring Peg Lynch and GUNSMOKE's Parley Baer

ARCHIE ANDREWS

starring McHALE'S NAVY's Bob Hastings

YOUR ANNOUNCER:

ABC's and THE LONE RANGER's Fred Foy
OTHER SURPRISE GUESTS

Tickets: \$12.00 per person

Saturday, April 8, 1995 6:00-10:00pm
Student Union, Massasoit Community College, Brockton

"The Radio Buff's Banquet"

An Evening of Performance, Conversation and Surprises

Dinner: Choice of Roast Prime Rib of Beef or
Baked Stuffed Shrimp

6:00.....Cheese and Crackers
6:30.....Dinner
7:30...ETHEL AND ALBERT with Peg Lynch & Parley Baer
8:30.....Panel with guests
9:15.....ESCAPE with Parley Baer and Bob Hastings and
several actors from the audience
Hosted by WBZ's Norm Nathan
Cost: \$35.00 per person

Special: HOLIDAY INN WESTGATE MALL ROOM RATE:
\$69.00 per night single or double. Just say "Radio Classics!"
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SPECIAL COMBINATION PRICE FOR BOTH EVENINGS - \$44.00 PER PERSON

Reservation Form

	No.	Total
Friday, April 7, 1995 Radio Classics: The Sixth Edition	_____ @ \$12	_____
Banquet and Show Combination Tickets	_____ @ \$44	_____
Saturday, April 8, 1995 Radio Buff's Banquet	_____ @ \$35	_____
Choice of Entree: Prime Rib	_____	_____
Shrimp	_____	_____

Name _____

Street _____ Apartment No. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Saturday Banquet Reservation Deadline: March 27, 1995

Make Checks Payable to: **The Massasoit Foundation.** Mail To:
Robert Bowers, Massasoit Community College, One Massasoit
Boulevard, Brockton, MA 02402

Directions will be sent with confirmation.
Tel. 508-588-6578 or 508-588-9100, x1906